

SEPTEMBER 1984

Field Naturalists Club of Ballarat

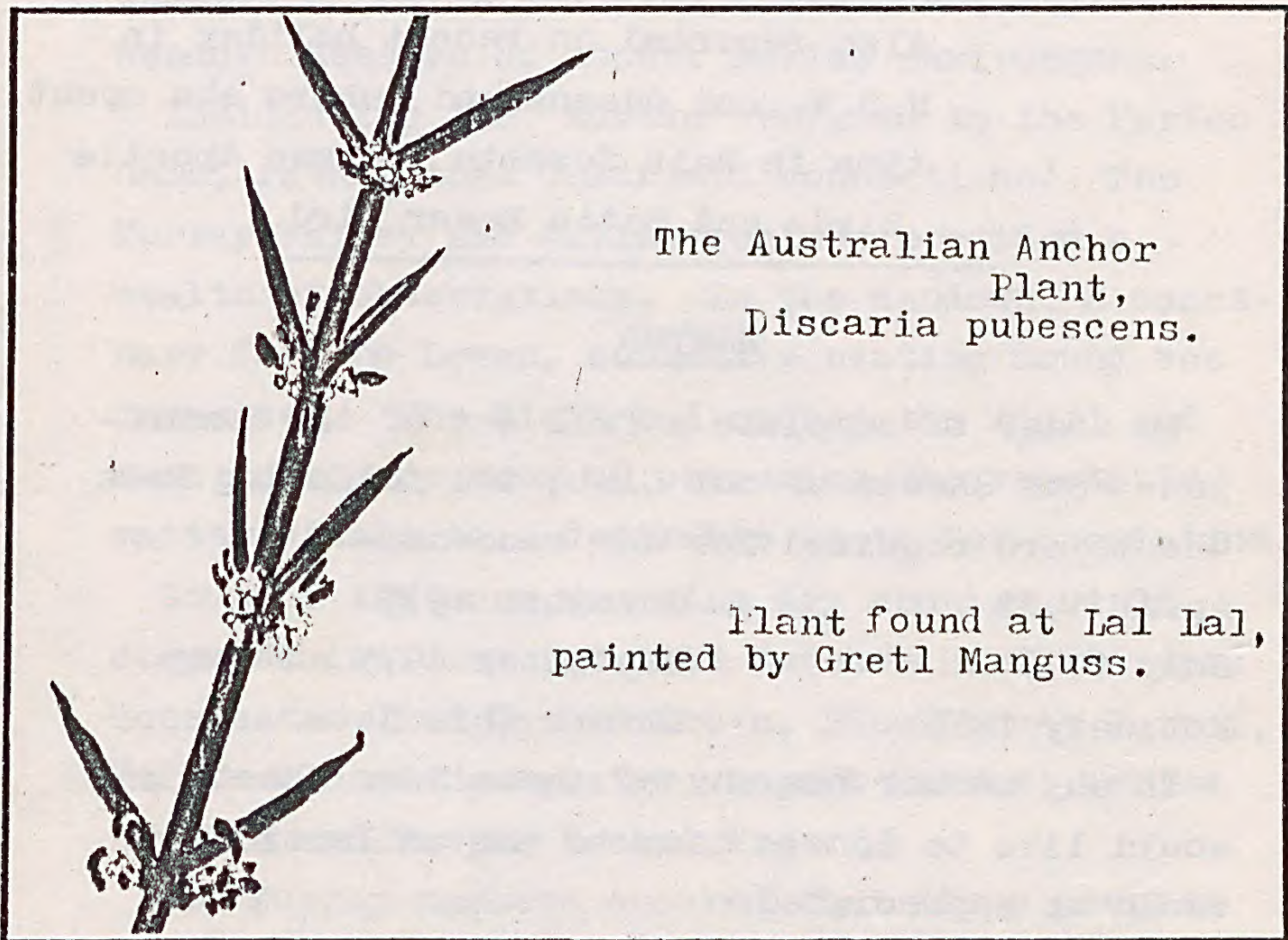
EXCURSION - NEWS SHEET

Meeting: 7th Sept: Mr N Scarlett - "Endangered Plants"

Meeting 5th Oct: Mr R Thomas - "Cuckoos"

Excursion 9th Sept: Inverliegh Common - Mr E Errey

Excursion 7th Oct: Linton - Mr R Thomas



The Australian Anchor
Plant,
Discaria pubescens.

Plant found at Lal Lal,
painted by Gretl Manguss.

President: Miss H Burgess 312210
Secretary: Miss J Binns 323670
Treasurer: Mrs F Williamson 327631
Editors: Mr G Binns 323670
Mr L Fink 052 861319

Meetings, as specified, are held in the Art
Building of the School of Mines and Industries,
Lydiard Street South, Ballarat, commencing 7.30pm.
EXCURSIONS, AS SPECIFIED, COMMENCE FROM
CROCKERS, Cnr. STURT and ARMSTRONG STREETS,
BALLARAT, AT 9.30 am FOR FULL DAY OUTINGS,
OR AT 1.30 pm FOR HALF DAY.

Reports from August Meeting.

- K. Hammond - Two Eastern Rosellas in Wendouree.
G. Binns - - Goshawk in back garden giving the
Bantams a thrill.
K. Williamson - Pair of Rufus Whistlers in
Ballarat.
L. Fink - - Magpies have started to nest.
H. Burgess - Party of Choughs passed through
Backyard.
R. Thomas - Pied Currawong seen near Mt. Helen.
M. Tonkin - Pied Currawong seen near Bunninyong.
Also reported on recent holiday in
N.S.W. and Queensland, where she spent
time in Rain forests and saw Apostle
Birds and Satin Bower Bird
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WANTED

In order to complete a full set of the Excursion- News Sheets of our Club, the following News Sheets are required for our records:-

April 1982	November 1975
July 1976	September 1975 and any
February 1976	before this date.

If any member has any of these News Sheets and would like to donate them to the collection it would be appreciated.

There are back dated News Sheets available.
These are 5 cents per copy.

W.V.F.N.C.A. CAMP OUT AT WOOD WOOD.

Nine members enjoyed the campout at Wood Wood on the Murray River, hosted by the Mid Murray Naturalists Trust, during the weekend of Aug 10 to 12. Participants were comfortably housed in the district Scout Camp complex and were conducted on excursions into typical forms of Eastern Mallee habitat. Geological, Botanical and Zoological interests were catered for in the time spent on the Northern shores of Lake Tyrrell, in the Eureka Reserve of Belah and Pine forest, and at the Wandown Reserve of superb Mallee environment.

Incidentally, the 'Eureka' relates to the Parish name, rather than Goldfield connections! The Murray Valley and Mallee regions provided a wealth of observations. In the Wandown, a sanctuary for the Lowan, an active nesting mound was inspected. The Birds had opened the mound and were in the process of preparing the vegetable matter within to a desirable state for incubation.

Some of the more exciting dry country birds observed included the Pied Butcher Bird, Striped Honeyeater, Red Capped Robin, Blue Bonnet Parrot, Yellow Plumed Honeyeater, Regent Parrot, Yellow Rosella and Purple Backed Wren.

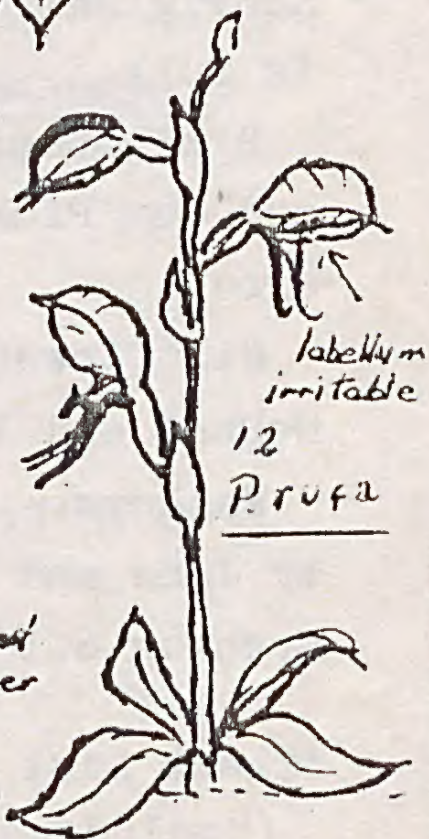
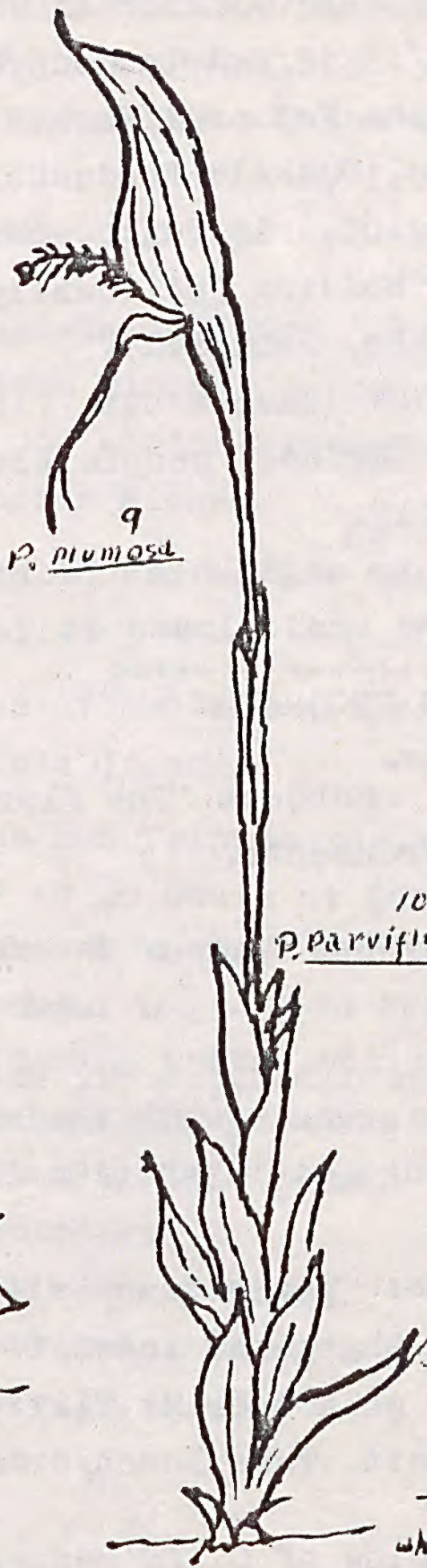
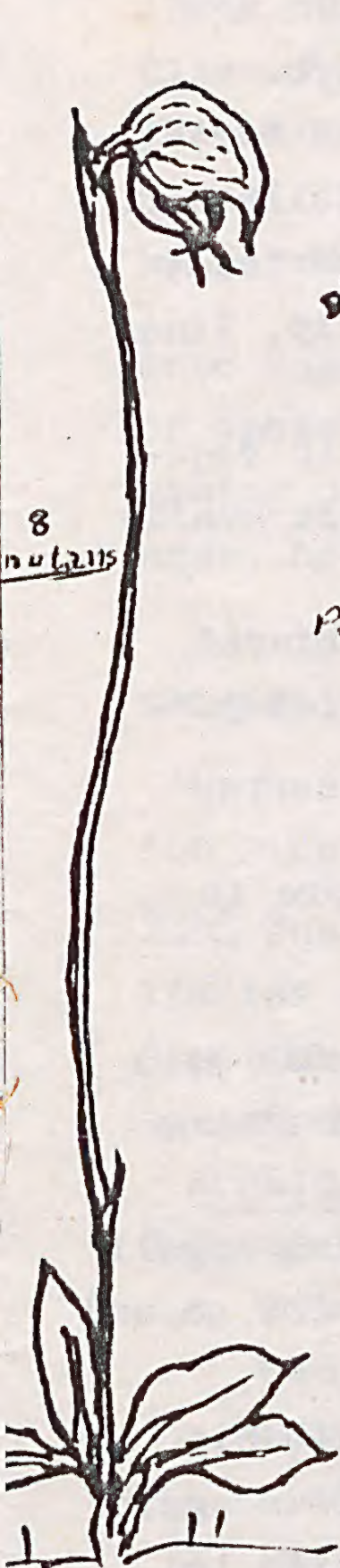
Mid Murray members ensured that those present at the well attended campout had a pleasant and fruitful weekend. During the evening sessions excellent illustrations of Natural History subjects were presented. (continued on back page)

PTEROSTYLIS.

Found in the Ballarat area.

cont.

8. *P. nutans* (illustrated) Nodding Greenhood.
Flower conspicuously nodding. Very common in all areas. Late winter to spring. July to September.
9. *P. plumosa* (illustrated) Bearded Greenhood.
Quite rare and isolated. Creswick, Enfield. Flowers spring. September October.
10. *P. parviflora* (illustrated) Tiny Greenhood.
Common in all areas. Autumn. March to April.
11. *P. nana* (illustrated) Dwarf Greenhood. Quite small. Galea wholly green. Isolated occurrences in all areas. Late winter to spring. August September.
12. *P. rufa* (illustrated) Rustyhood. Smallish flowers, reddish green to rusty red. Rare. Flowers spring. September to early November.
13. *P. decurva* Summer Greenhood. Lateral sepals diverging widely from galea. Summer. November December. A very rare plant found in hilly parts.
14. *P. cycnocephala* Swan Greenhood. Galea quite curved. Flowers small. Rare. Mt Beckworth. Spring. August to October. This orchid is very similar to *P. mutica* distinguished by a knob at the base of the tongue, which points outward, not inwards as in *P. mutica*.



WESTERN VICTORIAN FIELD NATURALISTS CLUBS ASS.

Spring Campout 12/13/14 October, 1984.

*****In the Grampians National Park.*****

Based at 'Aginda' camp, Dunkeld Road, Halls Gap.

Accommodation at 'Aginda' is fully serviced, with the exception of bedding (pillowslip, linen and blankets, all single, required).

Meals are supplied and lunches cut, (if required). Meals for non 'Aginda' people are available, please order early.

Friday night's meal is available if ordered with your booking. The meal closes at 7.30p.m.

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PROPOSED PROGRAMME

Friday Evening 8.30 p.m.

Subject 'The Flora in Various Grampians environments'.

Saturday 9 a.m.

Full Day Bus Tour to Buandik area
Aboriginal Sites at cost of \$5. per head if bus is full

Bird Observers:- Two areas - with Thelma Argall and Jim Pickford. Change at lunch time for second area.

Wildflowers and Ferns:- Two areas - with Win McPhee and Ian McCann. Change at lunch time again.

Walkers:- Wildflower walk over Mt William led by Jane and Neil Marriott. Take lunch, order early.
Evening 6.30 p.m.

Launching of Cliff Beauglehole's
'Check List of Vascular Plants of the SW2 area'
(including the Grampians).

'Bats of the Little Desert'. Illustrated Talk by Clive Crouch of Nhill.

'Field Naturalists Coach Tours'. Short talk with slide illustrations by Ian McCann.

Sunday Morning 9.30 a.m.

Geological interest trip into Magdala Goldmine 'Big Hill' Stawell, curtesy of Western Mining Co. and Central Norseman Gold Mining Co. (Joint Venturers) led by Project Manager, Brian Micke

OR

A trip to Heatherlie Quarry (Geological and Wild flowers).

OR

Browse around the areas adjacent to the Plantation Picnic Ground.

NOTE The Bus Trip to the Aboriginal Paintings is limited to 20 seats at \$5 each, on a first come first served basis. Bookings may be paid prior to campout.

APPLICATION FORMS AVAILABLE FROM SECRETARY.

Campout and Accomodation Enquiries to:

Stawell Field Nats.

Secretary,

Mrs. Jean Hughes,

9 Oriental Street,

Stawell. 3380

Phone 053 58 2031

On the Incorporation issue; the Association voted not to become an incorporated body.

Cliff Beauglehole has completed two more volumes in the Distribution of Vascular Plants series - for South Gippsland, and for South West Victoria (These are available to members through our President Helen).

Greg Binns

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HILL CREST EXCURSION.

On the afternoon of a cold and damp August 5th, two carloads of members travelled to the Hill Crest uncommitted forest block, north of Smythesdale, for the purpose of making a brief survey of the state of the habitat. The block has been subjected to rather severe 'controlled' burning and an inspection of burned and unburned areas was carried out. Severe scorch was evident in some sections and a disappointing regrowth of understory and smaller plants.

Some forty species of plants were identified, from the existing Club listing, including a green *Correa reflexa* amongst the predominant red.

The bird population was limited; the most arresting being the Scarlet Robin, White-eared Honeyeater and Restless Flycatcher (in a very active display.)

